

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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5 A cluster computer system including multiple network accessible computers  
that are each coupled to a network. The network accessible computers implement  
host computer programs which permits the network accessible computers to operate  
as host computers for client computers also connected to the network, such that  
input devices of the client computers can be used to generate inputs to the host  
computers, and such that image information generated by the host computers can be  
viewed by the client computers. The system also includes a cluster administration  
10 computer coupled to the multiple network accessible computers to monitor the  
operation of the network accessible computers. A method for providing access to  
host computers by client computers over a computer network includes receiving a  
request for a host computer coupled to a computer network from a client computer  
coupled to the computer network, wherein the relationship of the host computer to  
15 the client computer is to be such that after the client computer becomes associated  
with a host computer, an input device of the client computer can be used to generate  
inputs to the host computer, and such that image information generated by the host  
computer can be viewed by the client computer. Next, a suitable host computer for  
the client computer is determined, and the client computer is informed of the  
20 network address of the suitable host computer. Nodes of the network can be non-  
terrestrial.

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